

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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FAA WASHDC FOR ACS TO J. BLANK FROM CASUCCI

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJ: CIVIL AVIATION SECURITY

1. CASUCCI AND EMBOFF HELD DISCUSSION AT CAIRO AIRPORT ON JUNE 1 WITH AIR VICE MARSHAL YEHIA EL SHINNAWI, CHAIRMAN, GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL AVIATION; MOHAMED ALI KHATTAB, DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR AERONAUTICS, GENERAL AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL AVIATION; GENERAL SALAH REFAAT, DIRECTOR OF SECURITY, CAIRO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT; AND HOSNAY FARRAG, CHIEF OF POLICE, CAIRO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. UPON COMPLETION OF FORMALITIES AND PRESENTATION OF FIFTH REPORT TO CONGRESS AND REPORT ON WORLD WIDE SIGNIFICANT CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST CIVIL AVIATION, MATTER OF THE AIRPORT SECURITY SURVEY WAS RAISED. MARSHAL SHINNAWI AND GENERAL REFAAT COMMENTED THAT FAA AIRPORT SECURITY SURVEY WAS AN EXCELLENT DOCUMENT AND THAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS HAD BEEN ACCEPTED AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL (MINISTRY OF INTERIOR). EGYPTIANS STATE THEY ARE NOW IN PROCESS OF INITIATING, RECOMMENDED ACTIONS. THEY ADMITTED THAT SOME OF RECOMMENDATIONS, UNCLASSIFIED

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SUCH AS THE FENCING, LIGHTING ALONG PERIMETER, ALARM SYSTEMS, CONSTRUCTION, ETC., WILL TAKE TIME BECAUSE OF BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS. HOWEVER, THEY INDICATED THEY ARE WORKING ON THIS PROBLEM.

2. THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS WERE DISCUSSED IN DETAIL:

A. A STERILE AREA IS IN PROCESS OF BEING ESTABLISHED.

THERE ARE THREE HEIMAN X-RAYS ON HAND BUT INOPERATIVE AT THIS TIME. THERE ARE THREE MORE ON ORDER, EXPECTED TO BE DELIVERED IN APPROXIMATELY TWO-THREE WEEKS. IN ADDITION, FIVE METAL DETECTORS (GERMAN MANUFACTURE) HAVE BEEN ORDERED AND ARE ALSO EXPECTED IN APPROX. THREE WEEKS. A TECHNICAL SUPERVISOR AND MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL FROM HEIMAN CO. WILL ACCOMPANY DELIVERY OF THE THREE ADDITIONAL X-RAY MACHINES AND METAL DETECTORS. HEIMAN PERSONNEL WILL ASSIST IN SETTING UP EQUIPMENT AND WILL TRAIN EGYPTIAN SECURITY PERSONNEL IN OPERATING AND MAINTAINING THE EQUIPMENT. TRAINING IS EXPECTED TO TAKE 2-4 WEEKS.

B. DETECTORS AND X-RAYS WILL BE INSTALLED AS FOLLOWS: ONE DETECTOR AND ONE X-RAY AT TRANSIT POINT FROM THE ARRIVAL TERMINAL INTO THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE; TWO DETECTORS AND X-RAYS AT ENTRY INTO DEPARTURE LOUNGE FROM AIR CARRIER TICKET COUNTERS AND PASSPORT CONTROL AREA, AND ONE DETECTOR AND X-RAY AT GATE 10. IN ADDITION TO ABOVE EQUIPMENT ON HAND AND/OR ON ORDER, THERE ARE TWO HANDHELD TRANSFRISKERS; ONE HANDHELD RENS WAND AND ONE PYE DYMANRIC EXPLOSIVE DETECTOR. PURCHASE OF SEVERAL MORE HANDHELD DETECTORS ARE CONTEMPLATED. ELECTRICAL POWER SOURCE DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE A PROBLEM SINCE VOLTAGE REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN CONSTANT IN PAST MONTHS.

C. UNARMED SCREENERS ARE NOW PHYSICALLY FRISKING PASSENGERS AND SEARCHING HAND-CARRIED ITEMS. AN ARMED GUARD IS POSTED AT SCREENING POINT, BUT IN WRONG POSITION. THIS WAS POINTED OUT TO ESCORTING OFFICER. BOTH
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INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS AND, REPORTEDLY, DOMESTIC FLIGHTS ARE SCREENED.

D. AN ID BADGE SYSTEM HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. BADGE IS CREDIT CARD SIZE AND CONTAINS A PHOTOGRAPH AND PERTINENT DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION OF THE INDIVIDUAL. THESE BADGES WILL BE ISSUED ON A YEARLY BASIS AND ARE UNDER STRICT CONTROL OF CHIEF OF POLICE. NO OTHER AUTHORITY ISSUES BADGES, INCLUDING TEMPORARY PASSES. BADGES ARE ONLY ISSUED TO THOSE PERSONNEL THAT HAVE A REQUIREMENT OR NEED TO ENTER OR BE IN A SO-CALLED "CUSTOMS ZONE". ALL OF THE AIR OPERATING AREA (AOA) AND THE DEPARTURE LOUNGE IS CONSIDERED THE "CUSTOMS ZONE". REPORTEDLY, PERSONNEL IN THE CUSTOMS ZONE FOUND WITHOUT A BADGE OR WHO HAVE LOST THEIR BADGE ARE TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE. AFTER AN INVESTIGATION, EMPLOYEE IS FINED OR COULD LOSE HIS JOB. AIR CARRIER OR GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY NORMALLY EMPLOYING THE PERSON PAYS FINE. ALL PERSONNEL OBSERVED IN THE DEPARTURE

LOUNGE AND RAMP WERE WEARING BADGES. A VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM IS ALSO USED FOR THOSE VEHICLES PERMITTED ON THE AOA.

E. NO NEW CONSTRUCTION HAS TAKEN PLACE FOR "CHECK" ROOM FACILITY OPERATED BY CUSTOMS SERVICE. HOWEVER, POLICEMEN HAVE BEEN POSTED AT EACH DOOR TO LIMIT ACCESS TO BAGGAGE MAKE-UP AREA.

F. A NEW CARGO FACILITY IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND IS NEARING COMPLETION. EACH AIR CARRIER WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURITY IN CARGO FACILITY UNDER SUPERVISION OF CUSTOMS SERVICE.

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4. REPAIR, ADD TO, AND MAINTENANCE OF FENCING IS A PROBLEM. EGYPTIANS ADVISED THAT THERE IS APPROXIMATELY 34 KILOMETERS OF AIRPORT PERIMETER INVOLVED. THEY ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN FUNDS TO IMPROVE EXISTING CONDITIONS, ADD LIGHTING AND ALARMS TO EXISTING FENCING AND PROJECTED FENCING. MEANWHILE, ARMED GUARDS AND GUARDS WITH DOGS ARE PATROLLING PERIMETER. WATCH TOWERS HAVE ALSO BEEN ESTABLISHED ALONG PERIMETER FENCING AND AT CRITICAL AREAS.

5. A CENTRAL SECURITY AUTHORITY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND GENERAL REFAAT HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS DIRECTOR OF SECURITY. MR. FARRAG, CHIEF OF POLICE, UNDER GENERAL REFAAT, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ACTUAL SECURITY OPERATIONS SUCH AS SCREENING, OPERATION OF ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT,

MANNING OF ACCESS DOORS AND GATES, ETC. COMMUNICATION
USED IS TELEPHONE AND WALKY-TALKY RADIO.

6. ACCESS TO AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL CENTER HAS BEEN
CONTROLLED. A SECURITY FORCE UNDER CIVIL AVIATION
AUTHORITY HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED AND IS RESPONSIBLE FOR
ATC FACILITY AND OTHER SECURITY POSTS.

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7. AN AIRPORT SECURITY PROGRAM REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN
WRITTEN FOR THE AIRPORT AND AN AIRPORT SECURITY COMMITTEE
HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED. MEMBERS OF THE AIRPORT SECURITY
COMMITTEE ARE POLICE, IMMIGRATION, STATE OFFICIALS,
CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, AIRPORT SECURITY AND MILITARY.
AIR CARRIERS ARE NOT MEMBERS EXCEPT THROUGH THE AIR
CARRIERS OPERATORS COMMITTEE.

8. IN GENERAL, SECURITY POSTURE AT CAIRO INTERNATIONAL
AIRPORT SEEMS TO HAVE IMPROVED. DURING A WALK-THROUGH
OF TERMINAL, SCREENING OBSERVED WAS THOROUGH AND
CONSCIENTIOUS; NON-PASSENGERS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN DEPARTURE
AREA AND ACCESS DOORS TO AOA AND BAGGAGE AREA WERE GUARDED
BY POLICE. THERE IS ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT. THE
REQUIREMENT TO WEAR I.D. BUDGE MUST BE ENFORCED; FENCING
PROBLEM MUST BE RESOLVED SATISFACTORILY. A GENERAL
TIGHTENING OF SECURITY APPEARS STILL TO BE NEEDED. IT
IS SUGGESTED THAT A RETURN VISIT BE MADE BY FAA IN
THREE TO SIX MONTHS.
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